



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NORTH DAKOTA JANUARY 1 SHEEP AND GOATS

FARGO, N.D. January 29, 2021 - All sheep and lamb inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2021 totaled 73,000 head, down 2,000 from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Breeding sheep inventory totaled 53,000 head, up 2,000 from last year. Ewes one year and older totaled 43,000 head, up 2,000 from the previous year. Rams one year and older totaled 2,000, unchanged from last year. Total replacement lambs totaled 8,000 head, unchanged from last year.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 20,000 head, down 4,000 from last year. A total of 1,000 head were mature sheep (one year and older) while the remaining 19,000 were under one year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 2,000 lambs were under 65 pounds; 3,000 were 65-84 pounds; 7,000 were 85-105 pounds; 7,000 were over 105 pounds.

The 2020 lamb crop totaled 52,000 head, up 2,000 from 2019. The 2020 **lambing rate** was 127 per 100 ewes one year and older, compared with 139 in 2019.

Sheep deaths totaled 3,000 head, unchanged from 2019. **Lamb deaths** totaled 7,000 head, down 500 from last year.

Sheep and lambs slaughtered on farm totaled 1,000 head, unchanged from 2019.

Shorn wool production during 2020 was 455,000 pounds, down 10,000 from 2019. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 62,000 head, unchanged from 2019. **Weight per fleece** was 7.3 pounds, down 0.2 from 2019. The average price paid for wool sold in 2020 was \$1.15 per pound, compared with \$1.35 in 2019. The total value of wool produced in North Dakota was 523,000 dollars in 2020.

North Dakota goat inventory numbers are not separately published as part of NASS's annual program. The counts are included in the "other states" category and U.S. totals each year. State-level data for those "other states" are published as part of NASS's Census of Agriculture.

Access the national report at:

<https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/0000000018>

Access the National Livestock Executive Briefing at:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Newsroom/Executive_Briefings/2021/01-29-2021.pdf

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